RP gov't, Reds hold secret talks in Oslo

OSLO, NORWAY—PHILIPPINE GOVernment officials and communist rebels held three days of secret peace talks in Oslo this week in a bid to revive efforts to end a nearly four-decade conflict, a Norwegian official said Thursday.

News of the May 13-15 informal talks coincided with the eruption of fresh fighting between government forces and New People's Army rebels in Mindanao in which a policeman was killed and 12 others were wounded.

RP GOV'T/A11

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Saturday, May 17, 2008 ★★ 13 sections / Vol. 23 / No. 162 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

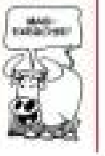
UK study: Fat is bad for global warming

GENEVA—SKIP DESSERT and save the earth.

British researchers have learned that obesity contributes to global warming.

Obese and overweight people require more fuel

UK STUDY/A10



BLOODBATH IN BANK

9 shot dead in the head

By Tonette Orejas, Maricar Cinco
and Nikko Catherine Calleja

CABUYAO, LAGUNA—AS though they were compelled to queue for their doom, three of the bodies were found side by side in a common pool of blood.

Two others were in the vault, lying among scattered peso bills. The rest lay in front of the counter, between office dividers—most with a single shot in the head.

Before taking off with an undetermined amount, yet unidentified robbers went on a killing spree early yesterday at the one-story branch of Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. (RCBC) in this town of industrial parks.

Officials said it was the worst crime in Laguna in recent memory.

"They were executed," Edwin Ermita, vice president for corporate services of the Yuchengco Group, RCBC's mother company, said of those killed—branch manager Roberto Pangandian Castro, tellers Bayani Nindao and Olga Gonzales, operations assistant Noel Miranda, new accounts officer Teresa Unayan, cashier service head Bernardo Lapaza Jr., janitor Juan Leyva, security guard Baltazar Agulando and a depositor's representative Ferdinand Antonio.

"Three were found dead as if they were told to line up; they were shot point-blank," Senior Supt. Felipe Rojas Jr., the Laguna police director, told the Inquirer.

9 SHOT/A11





AND THEN THERE WERE NONE All nine people—eight employees led by the branch manager and a depositor's representative—inside the RCBC branch in Cabuyao, Laguna, are gunned down one by one in what is now being called one of the bloodiest bank robberies in the country's history. (Top) A relative of a victim cries her heart out. RRICO/F

This Lopez is never selling his Meralco stake

By Michael Lim Ubac

MANUEL LOPEZ, THE CHAIR AND CEO of the Manila Electric Co., yesterday said he personally had no intention of selling out of the distribution utility which the Lopez family controls.

Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) president and general manager Winston Garcia can buy out all the other shareholders who want to sell, "but not me," Lopez said in an interview with ABS-CBN TV Patrol yesterday.

The idea of the Lopez Group giving up Meralco came up in the wake of the

THIS LOPEZ/A6

Senate woos JDV to be next NBN-ZTE star witness

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.
and Christine O. Avendaño

THE SENATE BLUE RIBBON committee is wooing former Speaker Jose de Venecia to be the next star witness in its inquiry into the scandal-ridden National Broadband Network (NBN) deal with China's ZTE Corp.

Committee chair Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano said yesterday that De Venecia's testimony could provide a fitting "bookend" to the earlier exposé made by the ex-Speaker's son and namesake, businessman Joey de Venecia, about alleged anomalies in the now-scrapped project.

"If he can provide complete information on how the project was changed from a build-operate-and-transfer (BOT) project to a loan-type project, we can say that the investigation is 99.99 percent complete," said Cayetano, chair of the committee on accountability of public officers and investigations.

Cayetano did not say what was holding the former Speaker from testifying at the inquiry, although his wife, Gina de Venecia, had volunteered to share her knowledge of the supposedly "secret" meeting in Shenzhen, China, between President Macapagal-Arroyo and ZTE officials on Nov. 2, 2006.

The Pangasinan lawmaker was with

SENATE/A14

Bush warns vs appeasing terrorists; Obama hits back hard

WASHINGTON—THE EXPLOSIVE ISsue of how to handle America's enemies detonated into the US election campaign Thursday after President George W. Bush implied Democrats wanted to appease terrorists.

Democrats erupted in outrage after Bush suggested in a speech in Israel that a pledge by their presidential front-runner Barack Obama to meet Iran's leader was akin to appeasement of Nazi Germany.

The battle of words was a sign that the general election fight has already begun between Republican candidate John McCain and Obama, who has what appears to be an insurmountable lead over Hillary Rodham Clinton in the race for the Democratic party's nomination.

That lead grew Thursday as Obama won the support of eight superdelegates, including seven who had supported former candidate John Edwards, who endorsed Obama on Wednesday.

Bush's comments appeared to be an

BUSH WARNING/A8



UPHILL STRUGGLE China continues its struggle to cope with the search and rescue operations even as it warns on Thursday that the death toll from Monday's massive earthquake could soar to 50,000. Here rescue workers carry a victim evacuated by boat as roads are still inaccessible near one of the hardest hit areas of Dujiangyan in Sichuan Province. AP

Razon: Bigger story behind Lozada story

By Nikko Dizon

SOMETHING BIG WAS BREWing when the then potential whistle-blower Rodolfo "Jun" Lozada was seized from the airport and taken on a long ride by men agents in February, according to the country's top policeman.

But when asked if an attempt to unseat President Macapagal-Arroyo was under way at that time, Philippine National Police Director General Avelino Razon merely smiled and shrugged.

"There are things about it that I cannot yet reveal," Razon told Inquirer editors and re-

RAZON/A11

NBI files malverse charges vs Lozada

By Tina G. Santos

CHARGES OF MALVERSATION of public funds were filed yesterday by the National Bureau of Investigation against Rodolfo "Jun" Lozada in connection with a P19.6-million fund supposedly intended for the jatropha project of Philippine Forest Corp. (PhilForest).

Also charged with the same offense at the Department of Justice was PhilForest vice president Gerardo Castillo, said

NBI FILES/A11

Here come rainy days, says Pagasa

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THE RAINY SEASON HAS OFFIcially started this week, according to the weather bureau.

The wet season usually begins on the fourth week of May but with La Niña conditions persisting in the country, the start of the rainy season came a week early, said the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa).

The "slightly earlier" onset of rain has an "indirect relation" to climate change, triggering the frequency of El Niño and La Ni-

HERE COME/A10

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE

EZ2: 10 2

FOUR DIGIT: 9 7 6 3

SUERTRES: 7 5 4 | 4 7 3 | 4 8 4

MEGALOTTO 6/45: 13 26 27 40 42 43

P28,514,604.60

Palace eyes non-wage benefits



TIME FOR PLANTING

Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap and Candaba Mayor Jerry Pelayo (right) get down and dirty to start the rice planting as part of the kickoff activity to mark the farmers' and fisherfolks' day in Candaba, Pampanga. Yap has taken the limelight since the start of the rice crisis a few weeks ago.

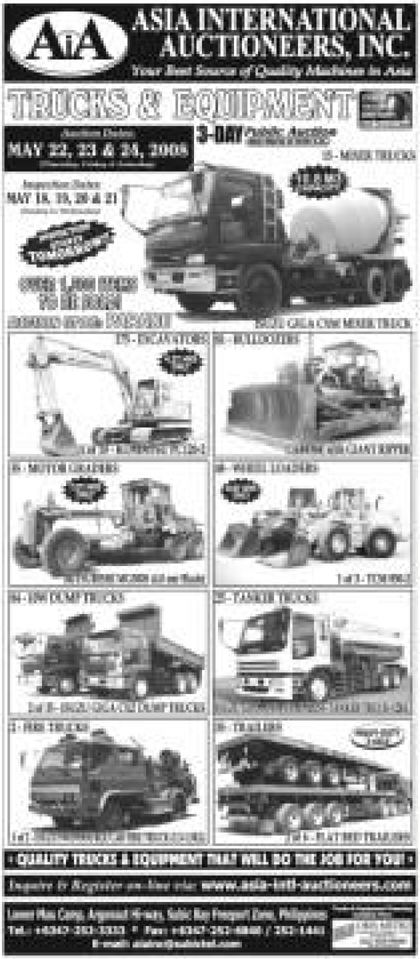
GMA seeks additional package for workers

By Michael Lim Ubac

APPARENTLY STUNG BY CRITICISMS THAT THE P20 wage hike for Metro Manila workers was a pittance, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday ordered the labor and trade departments to convene a series of tripartite meetings to discuss a possible grant of additional non-wage benefits.

Too measly

Tilted in employers' favor



Report doubts Dulmatin death

DOUBTS ABOUT THE ACCURACY OF reports that Jemaah Islamiyah master bomber Dulmatin is dead are growing, according to a conflict think tank.

Nani Perez gets another reprieve

By Jocelyn R. Uy

FOR THE SECOND TIME, FORMER Justice Secretary Hernando "Nani" Perez was given a reprieve after a Sandiganbayan court postponed his scheduled arraignment yesterday for graft.

Cabinet revamp: That's all folks, says Bunye



BUNYE

Clarification

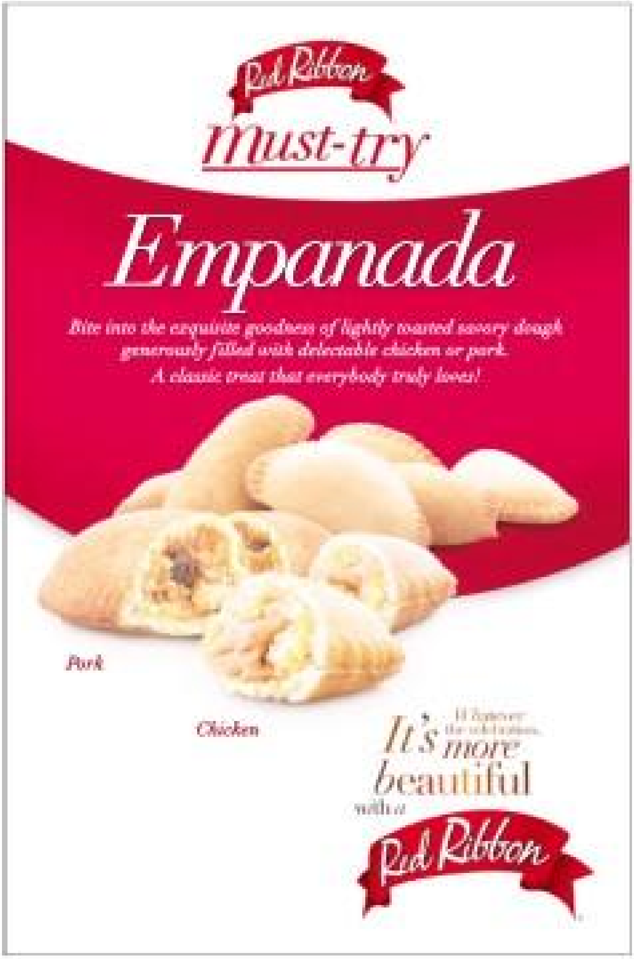
Learning curve



Union leader is Lopez pawn, claims GSIS

'Unthinkable'

Investment fund





INQUIRER UNION INDUCTION

DISINHERITED JAMBY'S LAMENT

Aunt's will makes 'her look like a bad woman'

By DJ Yap

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Japan drops Pinay's rape complaint vs US soldier

NAHA, JAPAN—JAPANESE PROSECUTORS in southern Okinawa said on Friday they had dropped charges against a US soldier accused of raping a Filipina, one of a series of criminal cases linked to the American military.

"The reason is that we did not have sufficient evidence," said an official at the Naha district prosecutor's office in Okinawa.

The move came as a US Marine was sentenced on Friday to four years in prison for sexually abusing a 14-year-old Japanese girl—but cleared of the more serious charge of rape.

The alleged rape sparked mass protests in southern Okinawa, home to half of the more than 40,000 US troops in Japan. Outraged Japanese leaders called for stricter disciplinary measures for US forces.

In contrast to the high-profile case of the minor, which led to an apology from US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, the alleged rape of the Filipina has drawn less attention.

The woman reported to police in February that she was raped by a member of the US Army in Okinawa, only days after the 14-year-old's alleged rape sparked outrage among local residents.

The Filipina was injured and received medical treatment at a hospital after the alleged incident at a hotel in the city of Okinawa on Feb. 18, according to local police.

During Rice's visit to Tokyo in February, a group of Philippine nationals in Japan staged a rally in front of the US embassy to protest the fact that her apology had only mentioned the teen's case.

Protests spread to the Philippines, a former US colony, where more than two dozen people rallied outside the US embassy and demanded an end to the US military presence in Asia. AFP

Cruz: No need to involve other bishops in his legal woes

Kuratong case lingers

Victims' lawyers press SC to act on motion

2 Chinese deported for rice hoarding

Hypertension 'epidemic'







Bush warns vs appeasing terrorists; Obama hits back hard

'Foolish delusion'

Tough talk, no action

McCain wades in

Support for Obama

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

SETTING THE MINIMUM WAGE FOR CALABARZON AREA

9 pardoned rebel soldiers walk free

By Nikko Dizon

[illegible]

Rebirth

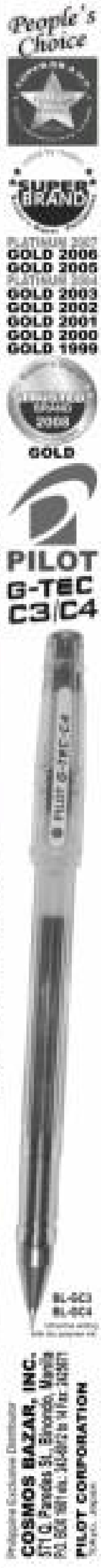
[illegible]

Jail terms

[illegible]







Here come rainy days, says Pagasa

Weather will improve

Peak in July/August

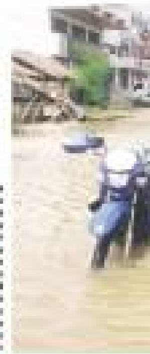
UK study: Fat is bad for global warming

40% of global population

Next step



WEATHER-PROOF



NAVIGATION



RP gov't, Reds hold secret talks in Oslo

[illegible]

Norway's role

[illegible]

More work to be done

[illegible]

End blacklist

[illegible]

13 issues

[illegible]

Latest clash

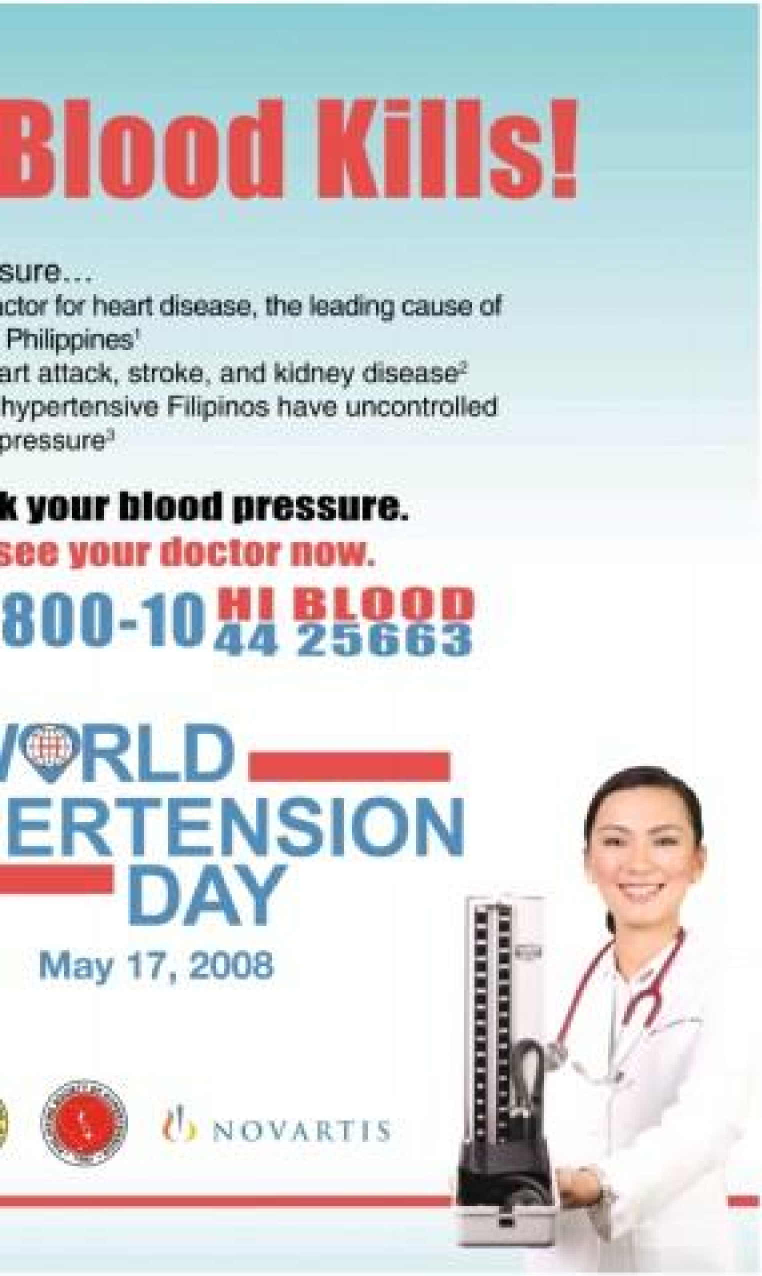
[illegible]

Families flee

[illegible]

No to military solution

[illegible]



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Are we prepared?

EDITORIAL

[illegible]



Change

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

[illegible]

Amazing, no more news on 'rice crisis'

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

[illegible]

Update on poverty and hunger

Social Climate



Mahar Mangahas

Literacy on our minds

Commentary

Neni Sta. Romana Cruz

CCT in RP 'teaching people to fish'

Commentary

Karin Schelzig Bloom

Wizard chess

Young Blood

Notice to Youngblood contributors

They Said

Sick and tired

Best people?

Filipinos underlings in their own country

LETTERS



Jpepa to push food production

Sugar industry owned by a few

God-fearing leaders wanted

9 shot dead in the head in RCBC branch

No sign of forced entry

Body on the floor

RCBC statement

Isolated place

Grief

Task Force RCBC

NBI files malversation charges against Lozada

Separate MOA

'Misappropriation'

Trail of irregularities

Razon: Bigger story behind Lozada story that I can't yet reveal

Credibility war

'True' to his oath



This Lopez is not selling his Meralco stake



LIKE THE SIGN SAYS

Entire clan's decision

Commitment to cooperate

GSIS has own strategy

Class action suit

Villafuerte's charges

Senate woos JDV to be next . . .

Logic plus evidence

Abalos lied

Across the NATION

Malaria haunts Subic shipyard site

Worker dead, 6 ill at Hanjin project area

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Malaria has recurred in the shipyard and surroundings of the Hanjin Heavy Industries & Construction Phil. Inc. in Subic, Zambales, killing a worker and taking six others ill on May 14, the Task Force Hanjin reported on Friday.

[illegible]



[illegible]

Payment made for bulldozed land didn't reach villagers

[illegible]

Uncertainty on kin's fate worry Burmese in Baguio City

[illegible]



RICE FESTIVAL

[illegible]

Gov't told: Spend money on jobs, not doles

[illegible]

"You cannot just give fish. What if the supply of fish runs out...?"

[illegible]

Loose firearms in Sulu tagged peace obstacle

[illegible]

Vizcaya exec seeks 'kalabasa' award for DENR



LOCAL COLOR



NEWSBRIEFS

■ CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

Hanjin boats capsize

Cop, grandson gunned down

■ LEGAZPI CITY

Drowning victim found

■ DIGOS CITY

Increase in number of enrollees seen

INQUIRER Visayas



THE SCENIC Villa Igang along the coast of Guimaras Island. Tourism on the island is making a rebound following the country's worst oil spill that all but devastated the island's economy.

Guimaras grabs tourism alternative

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Nueva Valencia, Guimaras



ROWS and rows of mango trees dot the landscape of Guimaras Island, which is also known for its sweet mangoes.

'Travelers coming from developed countries are more and more conscious of their environmental footprints. It makes them feel good that, by being travelers, they're also contributing to ecological conservation and community preservation and development...'

Making ends meet

Expansion



ONE of Guimaras Island's attractions, a watch tower that survived natural and man-made disasters.



A MOUNTAIN climbing enthusiast is one of the early visitors to Guimaras Island. Attempts to bring in more visitors are ongoing.

More earnings

Community model

Defying time, Neil Sedaka's pushing 70

By Pocholo Concepcion



NEIL SEDAKA

[illegible]

Pleasing the crowd

[illegible]

Classical training

[illegible]

Big break

[illegible]

A plus METRO

No foul play in army colonel's death

Police base findings on suicide note

POLICE SAID YESTERDAY THERE WAS NO FOUL play in the death last month of a bemedalled army colonel in his quarters in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.



FEEDING TIME

Kidnap victims escape from abductors

TWO MEN ABDUCTED FROM their house in Pasig City by three unidentified armed men escaped eight hours later by tricking their captors.

10 hurt in blast caused by leak in LPG tank

MetroBriefs

2 men shot dead after evading checkpoint

Improvised gun goes off, 2 students wounded

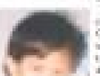
Pasay opens extension of mayor's office in hospital

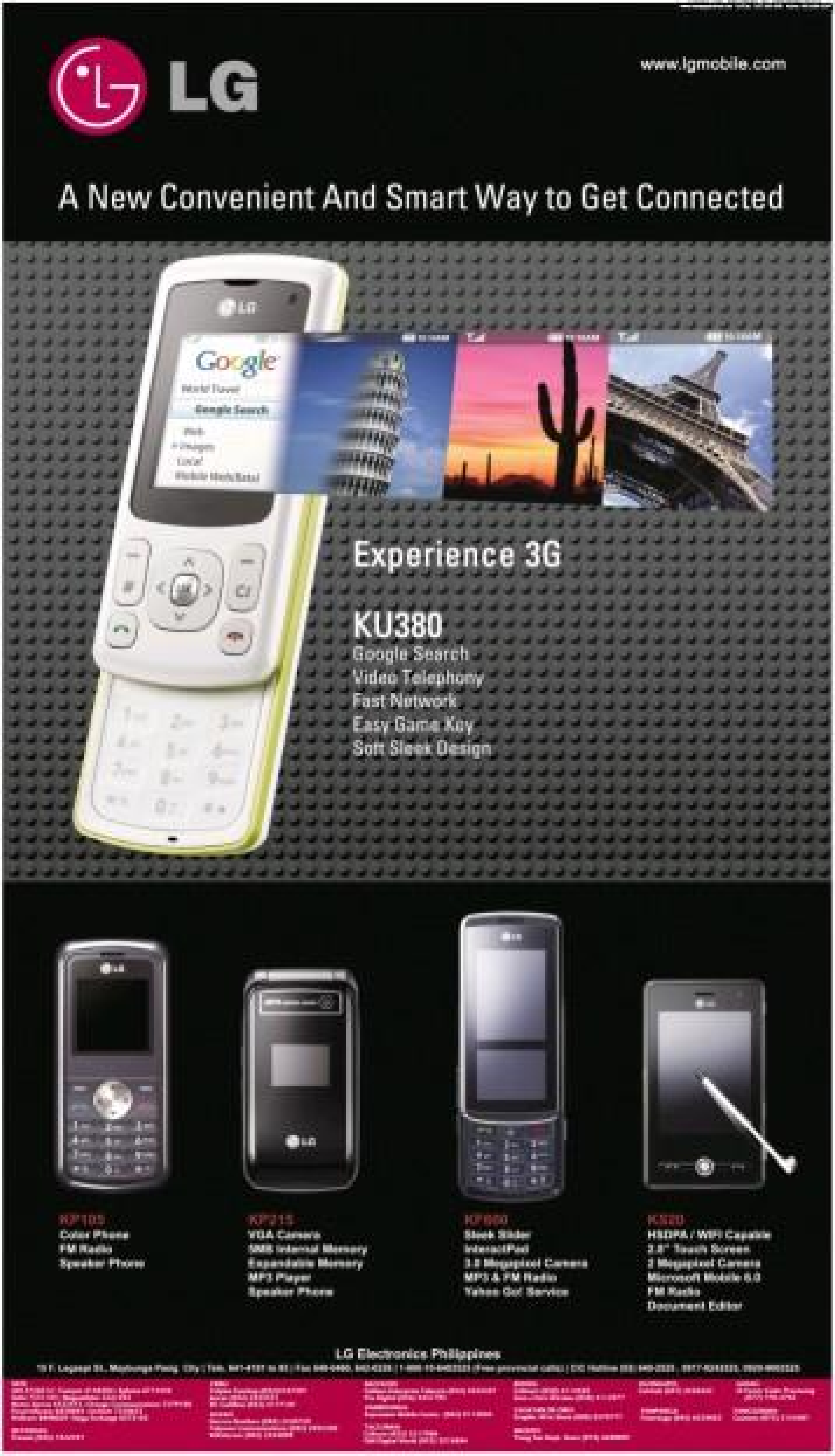
Fernando tarpaulins back with a vengeance

On Target
Ramon Tulfo



Donor needs aid to save child




LG
www.lgmobile.com
A New Convenient And Smart Way to Get Connected
Experience 3G
KU380
Google Search
Video Telephony
Fast Network
Easy Game Key
Soft Sleek Design
KP105
Color Phone
FM Radio
Speaker Phone
KP215
VGA Camera
Expandable Memory
MP3 Player
Speaker Phone
KF600
Sleek Slider
3.0 Megapixel Camera
MP3 & FM Radio
Yahoo Go! Service
KS20
HSDPA / WiFi Capable
2 Megapixel Camera
Microsoft Mobile 6.0
FM Radio
Document Editor
LG Electronics Philippines

The World

Time running out for quake survivors

MIANYANG, CHINA—Cries for help echoed from under the rubble of shattered communities on Friday as China warned time was running out to save survivors of an earthquake that has claimed an estimated 50,000 lives.



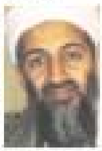
New storm deepens misery in Burma



Austrian 'relieved' after slays

WorldBriefs

Bin Laden vows to fight Israel on 60th year



BIN LADEN

Feuding Lebanese factions agree to talk

Alston raises alarms over Afghan killings

Microsoft joins effort for laptops for children

SPORTS



Canaleta keys Air21 victory

Magnolia holds off Purefoods

Hapee tries again today

Norwood & Co. out to set finals rematch with Harbour

Canaleta keys Air21 victory

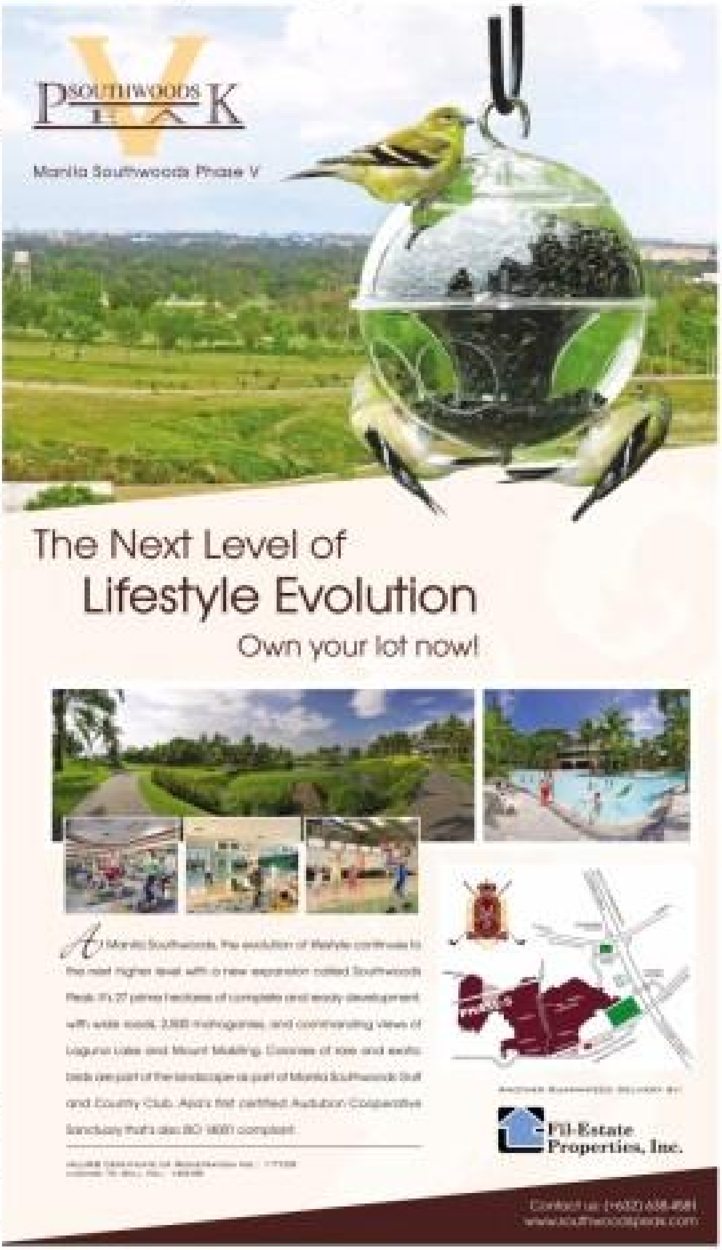
NCA World Championship Derby May 27



Ateneo tossers take 5

Lady Eagles sweep q'finals; Lyceum ousts USLS

Fernando, 3 others share Sabah lead



Kuzubov top pick as Subic Open unfolds

130 fights in 'Bugbugan' today

Sorenstam farewell tour starts with 67

Ochoa trails by a stroke; Rosales, Delasin 5 behind



ANNIKA Sorenstam, who recently announced her retirement, waves to fans at the 18th green.

Perry grabs share of wet AT&T Classic lead

'Poker golf' world series ups the ante

Big Brown gets new shoes for Preakness

Hamburg: Big Three marches on



FEDERER



NADAL



DJOKOVIC



SHARAPOVA: Waking up was very difficult

Sharapova leads Italian Open q'finalists

Wang back in deadly form, bags Asian gold



WANG: Redemption



A.F.C. CHALLENGE CUP

Filipinos switch to attack vs Bhutan booters today

ILOILO CITY—FROM DEFENSIVE TO ATTACK-MINDED.

National athletes moving to PhilSport's Brent site

By Marc Anthony Reyes



Annual NSA budgets set soon—PSC

By Marc Anthony Reyes



RAMIREZ



SWIM-FOR-A-CAUSE WINNERS

Olango Challenge raises P5M; Nikita, Vega shine

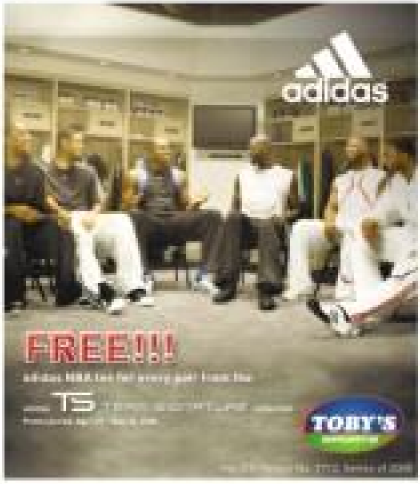
SPORTS

Spurs live to fight another day

Man United's Ronaldo hints at move

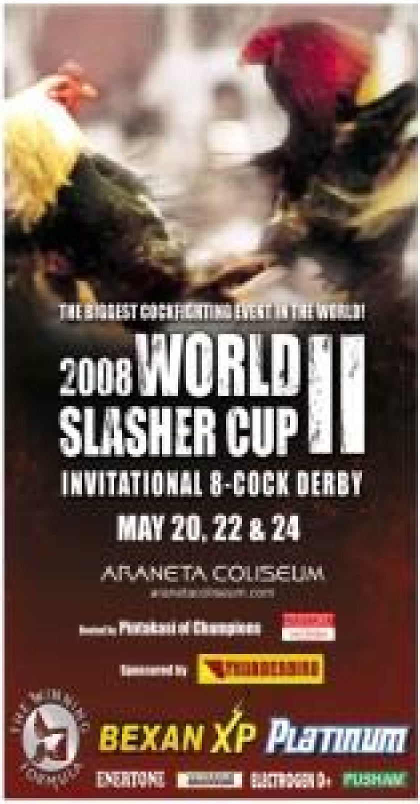
Defending NBA champions swat Hornets, forge deciding Game 7





Falcons trip Archers in Nike hoops

World Slasher presscon today



BUSINESS

Editor: Raul D. Marcelo • Assistant Editor: Dennis S. Marinas

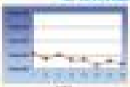
RP posts higher BOP surplus in April

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINES POSTED A BALANCE OF PAYMENTS surplus of $499 million in April—32 percent higher than that of March, largely due to remittances from overseas Filipinos and official development loans.

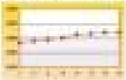
IN THIS ISSUE

Currencies



Stock Market

Shares close flat



Social services get a boost from rising oil prices

SMC property unit to spend P1B-P2.5B for Boracay resort

[illegible]

JG Summit reports 61% decline in profit

[illegible]

Waterfront income surges

[illegible]

RFM Q1 profit up 7.6% to P67.3M

[illegible]

[illegible]

Otto raising $15M for exploration plans

MPIC buys 34% of Davao hospital

In line with Metro Pacific's plan to create the first nationwide network of hospitals

RP ...

Social services get a boost ...

Shares close flat ...

MOBILE PHONE BANKING INITIATIVE IN THE MICROFINANCE INDUSTRY



ARA VISTA DAY ONE-A DAY OF CELEBRATION

SCIENCE/HEALTH

Editor: Cesar D. Mangawang

DOH allots P10M to purchase opioids for poor cancer patients

By Cesar D. Mangawang



DUQUE

Necessary for pain relief

Minimal use of morphine

Filipino pain advocates



DELICATE BALANCING ACT. Marine scientists make sure not to disturb the coral beds and other marine life.

Diving savants scour seas for medical cure

Attractive subject of studies

Pain management

Mahatma Gandhi and mind power

MEDICAL FILES

Promoting patient safety in surgery

RP summit

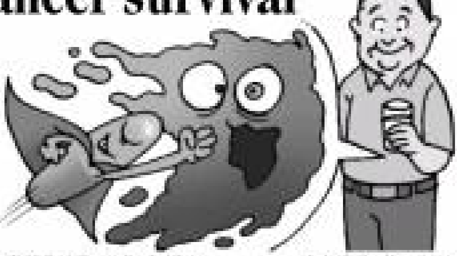
Checklist

Living well with diabetes

Healthy eating

Regular exercise

Eloxatin regimen improving colon cancer survival



Strides made

Stopped growing

Highly curable

Strength in numbers

DISCOVER



Powerful influences

Accuracy of decision making

The evolution of cough medicine



Herbs in history

Herbal cures popular again

Endorsed by DOH

High blood high priority

CAREPLUS





Recommendations

Lifestyle modifications

Antihypertensive drugs

Caused by organ disease

Business

SLTC vows to soon finish repair of Alabang viaduct

New container terminal opens in Subic



PROPERTY



Scientist builds solar-powered 'geriatric' home

NECESSITY IS THE MOTHer of all inventions, the saying goes. So when a 71-year-old environment scientist found it necessary to build a "senior citizen-friendly" home, you would expect that abode would be environment-friendly, too.

Accessible by wheelchair

'Earth-sheltered building'

Capturing sunlight





Maximalist design

Living Architecture

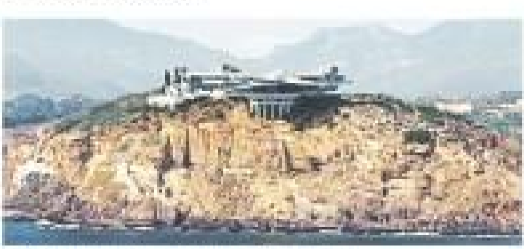


Marcos de Guzman Jr.



Concrete, visible legacy

Preferred building style



'Green architecture' highlighted at Eton City's South Lake Village





Addressing ecological issues

Keeping the lake 'healthy'

Scientist builds solar-powered 'geriatric' home

Electric consumption



Caregiving in the home

DESIGN DIMENSIONS

Isabel Berenguer



FOR THE PAST THREE months, I had the pleasure of having my father stay over at my house as he recovered from a heart bypass. Being his only daughter, I tasked myself to take care of his recovery...

Strive for independence

The elderly, more often than not, ...

Small details carefully chosen

...

Century Properties brings affordable luxury concept to realty market

REAL ESTATE INNOVATOR CENTURY Properties brings the concept of affordable luxury to real estate development with its latest residential project rising on the 3.4-hectare Century City on Kalayaan Avenue, Makati.

P4.7-B structure

...

Smart views, smart location

...

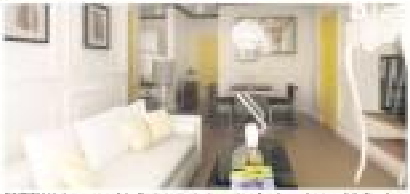
'Sexy' designs, architecture

...

Available, affordable

...

For more information, visit www.knightsbridge.com.ph.



BRITISH Modern – one of the five interior design options for clients who get a fully fitted and fully furnished unit at The Knightsbridge Residences.



RENDITIONS of The Knightsbridge Residences (center and far left) at Century City



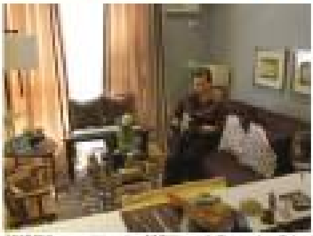
THE KNIGHTSBRIDGE Residences will feature a cutting-edge curvilinear architecture as well as the Lantern Concept—six levels of units with dramatic floor-to-ceiling glass windows that create iconic, sparkling glass boxes at night.

CONSTRUCTSCOPE

Aidea holds ArchiCAD seminar

...

Belton Place redefines upscale city living



CORDERO reported that a lot of OFW buyers in Europe chose Belton Place's one-bedroom units.



DESIGNER [illegible] creative use of space and color enabled Belton Place's studio unit to look more spacious.

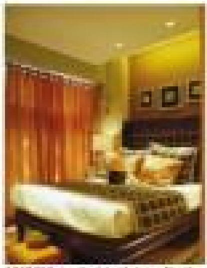
Text and photos by Charles E. Buban

REGULAR PASSERS-BY OF Chino Roces avenue will definitely notice this new development that is ready to break ground at the area bordered by Malugay and Yakal streets.

[illegible]

Attractive

[illegible]



CORDERO described that Belton Place's units carry a modern as well as an oriental feel.



SAMPLE dining/kitchen area of the one-bedroom unit.

Transforming

[illegible]

San Lorenzo Place rises beside two posh Makati villages

[illegible]

Easy access

[illegible]

Mid-income market

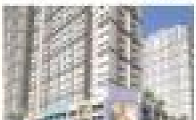
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THE FOUR-TOWER San Lorenzo Place is a welcome neighbor to two posh Makati subdivisions: Magallanes and San Lorenzo villages.

Amenities

[illegible]



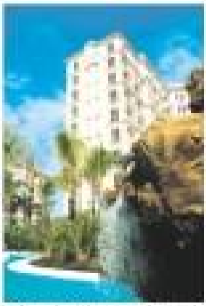
THE GROUND level of San Lorenzo Place hosts an arcade with top shopping and dining choices for the convenience of residents.



THE SIXTH-LEVEL play deck of San Lorenzo Place features swimming and kiddie pools, spa, tennis court and clubhouse, children's playground and a jogging path.



SIMPLY inviting, the lap pool is right in the heart of the 6.8-hectare condominium enclave.



GO for a swim and savor the soothing sound of cascading waterfalls.

CROWNASIA'S PRESIDIO

A community comes to life in Sucat

[illegible]

Residential, commercial hub

[illegible]

Constant developments

[illegible]



SAVOR meals with family or entertain friends inside the comfort of your vertical residence.

Amenities and facilities

[illegible]

More accessible

[illegible]



RELAX in your own private retreat at Presidio.

This week Super means Scarlet • Ultramarine • Periwinkle • Ecru • Russet

SPLASH WITH SUPER

Super



It's all about hue

Little shop of Colors
by Pam Pastor
page C4

InterARTive exhibit
by Katrina Holigores
page C4

Rock out royalty
by Paolo Reyes
page C1

Paint with film
by James Gabrillo
page C1

Boracay blues
by Tais Diaz
page C5

Crouching paddler, Hidden dragon
by Wanggo Gallaga
page C2



FLY WITH SUPER ▶▶
Chief: Pam Pastor
Co-Pilot: Katrina A. Holigores
First Officers: Tais Diaz, James Gabrillo, Wanggo Gallaga, Jason Inocencio, Paolo Reyes
Air Traffic Controller: Mel Sanday
Cabin Crew: Bebot Bernardo, L.A. Mistiolas, Jan Segovia
Ground Control: Marsha Ayes & Little Lazaro

Enter the Dragon Boat

More than muscle or skill, the dragon boat race is about team work and camaraderie. The race is more than a competition it is a chance for the paddlers to interact with other Dragon Boat racers in various locales around the world





THEY DANCE TOO Team SHP Hair Dinkum of Hong Kong



DIFFERENT strokes

By Weggy Gallego
Photos by Harvey Tapan

LABOR DAY WEEKEND IN BORACAY IS LIKE a gateway to unbridled chaotic glee. From bashes to raves, various events from extreme games, concerts and the usual summer activities livened the world-famous beaches of the island. Nestled at the beach front of the Boracay Regency and Convention Center, the Fila Boracay International Dragon Boat Festival became the biggest international sporting event to be held in Boracay. 50 teams from as far as Australia, Germany, Singapore, Hong Kong, the United States and the Philippines came to the summer party capital of the country to paddle it out in a Dragon Boat Race battle. Over 1,000 paddlers made up the international festival.

Organized by the Boracay International Paddlers Association, in cooperation with The Department of Tourism, The Philippine Dragon Boat Federation, and the Municipality of Malay, the Dragon Boat festival was a grand display of sportsmanship. By the beach, one could witness the power and unity of each team as they raced for the fastest time. But while the spectators saw a competition, for the paddlers, it's an entirely different story.

A social gathering

"It will not necessarily be a serious race," explains Event Director Nestor Bagan. "Some of them are not here to win. They are here to be in Boracay for the sand and the beach and for the camaraderie of the Dragon Boat." Surprisingly, the Dragon Boat race, anywhere in the world, is more of a gathering. It's a community of people with similar interests and the competition is more of an excuse to get together and party.

"It's part of the tradition," expounds Bagan. "In the '70s, it was a cultural thing, not a competitive thing." Philbert Chiu, coach of SHP Hair Dinkum, a team from Hong Kong says, "It's very good fun. It hasn't reached a level where it is too competitive. That's why everyone wants to enjoy themselves."



SIGNAL HOI Women's 200-meter champion The Stormy Dragons of Hong Kong

So while the race schedule has been set, every night, there is a party where everyone gets to interact. "I've been paddling for 11 years in Australia, Taiwan and Hong Kong and everyone is very friendly," says Chiu. "Everyone is always willing to help out if you are short of paddlers. They are always willing to teach you. I think that's why people are so willing to join the Dragon Boat."

When not in competition, members from different teams run and cool off in the beach and watch the other teams race. They cheer and take pictures. They dance to the music coming from the speakers. The community is a living entity enjoying each other's company. The race just becomes an excuse for everyone to have a good time.

"Most important is we came for a party," laughs Chiu. "I think for us, paddling is second but the party is first." His statement became more evident during the opening party where, during a song number, the whole team of SHP Hair Dinkum began to do an impromptu modern dance interpretation, cheered on by their competition.

Still a race

While the party spirit was strong in between races, when a team was ready to begin their race (or heat, as they call it), it was all serious business. Bagan explains that the race started to become more competitive in 1998, "when China started the circuits. You would go to a place and there's a series of 5 races in different cities," he shares. "We expect a competition amongst the locals, especially by the ones from Camarines Sur."

The teams from the Philippines are highly regarded in these competitions. The National Team broke the record at an international competition in Sydney last year and now "no teams have been 'realized,'" as Bagan explains.

Of the 50 or so teams competing, the De La Salle University Dragon Boat team is probably the youngest, but by far, not the most inexperienced. "That's our pride in the race," explains Pierre Ongkiko, the captain of the DLSU team. "We are the only university team that is competing against those guys who are club teams and sponsored teams."

The DLSU team trains every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 5:30 in the morning until 7 before class, as Ongkiko explains, "some have class at 8. That's the student/paddler life."

Of the teams expected to do well, Camarines Sur and Bugsay Boracay, which were most of the trophies last year, were the teams to beat.

We are the champions

But as early team battled it out, some teams rose to the top. For the 200-meter race Tribu Camarines Sur won the championship for Men's and Mixed while the Stormy Dragons of Hong Kong won for the Women's Division. For the 500-meter race, the ladies of Bugsay Boracay won the Women's Division, the Philippine National Police Hardies won the Mixed Division and the Warn Sea Dragons of Germany won the Men's Division.

Prior to the final race, the Warn Sea Dragons already predicted their victory by making their way to the boat while playing Queen's "We are the Champions" and wearing gold robes and waving their team's flag. Other teams laughed and took more photos and heartily applauded when they won the close match.

Sponsored by Fila, Petals, Fiesta Motors [illegible] Strand, Pocari Sweat [illegible] Water, Monica [illegible] Circle King Ginn, Coconut of the Body, Asian Spirit, Hilton Spring, Sun Life Financial, Kaya Motor Logistic, CMC, Lemon Cafe, Forcum, Andok's, and the Boracay Strand, it was no question that the spirit of competition, camaraderie and fun pervaded the festival. Already, next year's festival is already in the works. As expected, another year of paddling and partying awaits.

For more information, visit www.boracaydragonboat.ph.



ROWING to the beat of their own drum. Team Tribu Camarines Sur



Lokos Only!

The 3rd Manila Surfers' Cup



THE SALTWATER hooligans ...

AS I SIT ON THE beach in San Juan, La Union, enjoying the salty sea breeze, I see a guy in a horse suit paddling out on a surfboard. I'm still pondering it when a man catches a wave with a red cape flying behind him, wearing nothing but black briefs. A bizarre sight opens up before me: a traffic enforcer is chatting with Charlie Chaplin while waiting for waves; a French woman in a googly-eyed costume that can only be meant to resemble a tarsier (It might've been the sign on her back saying "I love Bohol" that gave it away) is paddling for a wave to the cheers of a cheerleader; while a ninja is sitting on her surfboard, goofing around with Shrek himself.





LOCAL vibes



BOARD meeting

What's going on? I thought I was here to attend a surfing competition!

But this isn't just any surfing competition. It was organized by the Manila Surfers' Association, or MSA. There are surfers dressing up in crazy costumes and riding the waves because that's what MSA is all about: having fun, and sharing the feel-good vibe that is at the heart of surfing, beyond all the surf gear and lingo.

MSA is a nonprofit organization started three years ago by people from Manila, drawn together by their love of surfing and desire to promote the sport. MSA represents a fast-growing community of Manila-based surfers who travel every weekend to surf spots like La Union, Baler, and Zambales. For them, surfing is an escape, a chance to let loose and be yourself, away from the stress of the corporate jungle. They say the best surfer is the one having the most fun. Manila surfers may not be pros, or hardcore, but after hanging out with them at their parties and competitions, I'd say MSA are champs in this arena.

And that's why Lokos Only: The 3rd Manila Surfers' Cup is unlike any other surfing event. Held on the weekend of Feb. 22-24, 2008, and sponsored by Aloha Boardsports,

LOKOS/C4



WAVE hello



Super Lokos Only! . . .

[illegible]





A list of the best films about the best artists that the world has seen



A cellulloid canvas



PAINTERS DON'T HAVE IT EASY.

Art frame-by-frame

GEOX SS 08 COLLECTIONS: A BREATH OF SUMMER

A celluloid canvas

From page D1

Life is like a (color) wheel

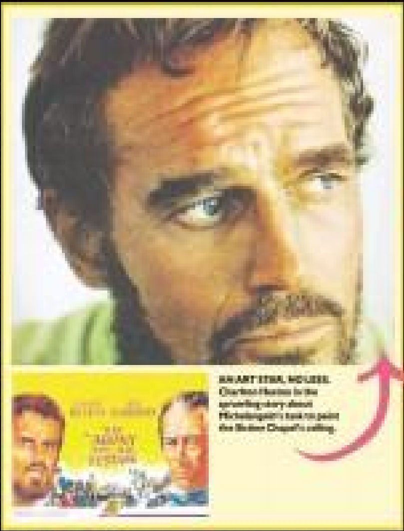
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Rembrandt (Alexander Korda, 1936)

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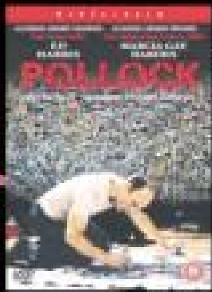
The Agony and the Ecstasy (Carol Reed, 1965)

[illegible]



AN ART STAR, NO LESS: Charlton Heston in the sprawling story about Michelangelo's task to paint the Sistine Chapel's ceiling.





ANOTHER Van Gogh attempt captured the madness and the genius quite like The Butch: "Vincent and Theo."

Pollock (Ed Harris, 2000)

[illegible]

Basquiat (Julian Schnabel, 1996)

[illegible]



Vincent and Theo (Robert Altman, 1990)

[illegible]

Andrei Rublev (Andrei Tarkovsky, 1969)

[illegible]

Verites et mensonges (F for Fake) (Orson Welles, 1974)

[illegible]





SUPER EXCLUSIVE!

Ringside pow-wow with a champ



Super's exclusive chit-chat with The Contender Asia's grand winner



HE DARED, HE PUNCHED, AND he conquered.



100 Kwentong Peyups

Why do I Write?



At Oh Shoot! Toy Camera Shop, pixels and memory cards don't matter.








SPACE INVADERS

Spreading the gospel of toy cameras

By Pam Pastor

FORGET YOUR DIGITAL cameras.

A new camera shop is opening its doors tonight—and in this store, pixels and memory cards don't matter.

Walk into Oh Shoot! Toy Camera Shop and the first thing you'll notice are the walls. They are covered with vivid and colorful images—lomographs by the members of Lomomanila, a big group of local lomographers who share a love for film photography and plastic cameras.

The second thing you'll notice are the boxes. Big, wooden and stamped with intriguing words like "Frogeye," "Fisheye," "Diorama," and "UCA," they contain the store's stocks—different kinds of film cameras and accessories that would make any toy camera enthusiast salivate.

Hooked

Skilled lomographer and regular Super photographer Jill Lopez runs this shop. Jill started using toy cameras in 2005, after seeing a Lomomanila exhibit. "I was hooked. I bought an Actionsampler—that was my first lomo camera." Since then, Jill has built an impressive collection of cameras. She likes how they produce unexpected results. "A toy camera is like a box of surprises—the pictures are always astonishing," Jill said.

She decided to open Oh Shoot! out of the desire to share her love for toy cameras with other people. "I've seen how other toy camera fans have a hard time getting their hands on new units—most of which aren't available in local stores. We have to ask relatives abroad, we buy online, we spend hours and hours on Ebay," Jill said. "I wanted to make things a little easier for the people who share my passion."



Oh Shoot! has taken care of putting together the best and latest fun toy cameras from around the world in one shop—including Lomo cameras and the Superheadz cameras from Japan. "There are many different kinds of toy cameras—some that are very easy to use, some that require a little more skill. It doesn't matter if you're new and curious or if you're an old pro, there's a toy camera that's perfect for you."

And if you're worried that a visit to Oh Shoot! will cause a dent in your pocket, think again. The cameras come in a wide range of prices—some more affordable than the others.

Toy camera love

Because Jill wants to spread toy camera love all over the country, those who live outside Metro Manila can log on to www.ohshoot.ca to order their cameras. The shop also offers gift-wrapping and delivery services if you want to give someone the gift of lomo.

People who don't know which camera to buy and those who need advice about cameras they already own can turn to Oh Shoot!'s toy camera counseling service which is offered on the shop's website.

One great way to figure out which camera you'd love is by looking at pictures taken by other toy camera photographers. You can do just that this month at Oh Shoot! where Lomomanila's exhibit Lomo Spotted is currently running (exhibit ends on June 20). Jill said, "The colorful and dreamy images take you to that fleeting moment when the photos were taken. The wall is a celebration of the bliss of spotting everyday objects that can be immortalized on film."

Jill doesn't want people to just think of Oh Shoot! as a place where people can buy cameras. "This is a space where passions meet, where creative souls are armed with tools with which to express themselves, where people can come and realize why so many of us are embracing the magic of film photography."

Oh Shoot! is open on Mondays to Fridays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. The shop, which will begin regular operations on Tuesday, May 20, is located at the Loft of Unit [illegible] Shopping Center, [illegible] Road, Quezon City, Philippines. Visit www.ohshoot.ca or e-mail hi@ohshoot.ca. To know more about lomography, visit www.lomomanila.ph.

The Super guide to toy cameras



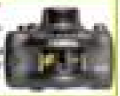
Actionsampler

Lights, camera, action! Four lens fun! The Actionsampler takes four consecutive shots, capturing all the action you can give it.

Horizon Perfekt

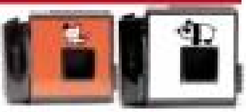


Good-sized fly-catchers, the Horizon Kompakt and the Horizon Perfekt take breath-taking panoramic images. The Horizon Perfekt is equipped with swing lens technology and a full range of aperture and speed settings.



Noah's Cam

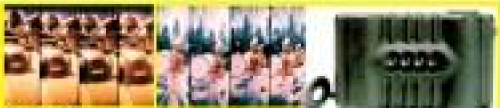
Choose your animal. These are tiny 110 toy chain cameras, adorable and a good conversation piece.





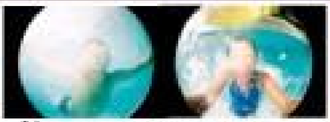
Diorama

This tiny fisheye camera from Superheadz will surprise you with what it can capture.



Supersampler

This four-lens camera can catch moving targets and create awesome patterns.

Fisheye Sub

Thanks to the Fisheye Submarine, you can use the Fisheye camera underwater—up to a depth of 50 feet.



Golden Half

Twice the fun. Superheadz's Golden Half takes half a picture each time—stretching your film for all its worth.



Holga 135

A compact version of the Holga. This one fits regular-sized 135 film and produces dark scenes in pictures.





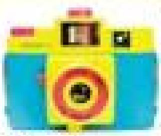

Fisheye

The Fisheye captures an amazing 170-degree field of vision resulting in unforgettable circular images. Choose between Fisheye 1 and Fisheye 2 which is equipped with a bulb setting feature, a hotshoe and a multiple exposure button.



UC-A+

The Russian designed camera is a lo-fi legend and is equipped with new features including a multiple exposure switch. [illegible] [illegible] the UC-A+ is the flagship camera of the Lomography [illegible].



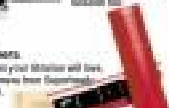

Holga 120CFN

The Holga is a cult favorite of medium-format fans because of its vignettes and easy light leaks. Meant to be used with 120 film, you can also use the Holga with 135 film and create Holga sprockets.



Diana +

A 60s classic, the dreamy Diana + can shoot multiple successful exposures. Try this camera's pinhole function too.

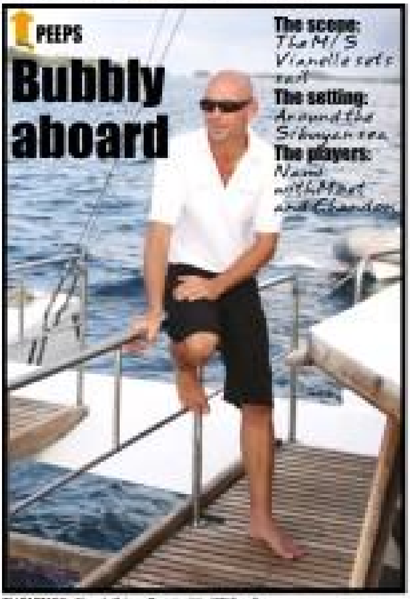


Book Camera

A camera even your librarian will love, this Book Camera from Superheadz uses 110 film.



TOASTMASTERS Sasha Sailing club president Joel Ong and Ilya Cruz



OH CAPTAIN! Marcelo Kaiser - Captain of the M/S Viandella



LAND LUBBERS Andrea Del Rosario and Nix Mayol



SEA LEGS Mito & Bimbam Yonjuan, Joel Ong, Nami's Chesca Lacsamana-King, and Super's Tals Diaz



SHIPS AHOY Marilou Jacinto



D'Seas

Photo by Tals Diaz

OUT THE WINDOW Tals Diaz

PICTURE THIS: SUNSET. The summer breeze wafts with the leaves of the coconut trees. Canoes' chisels shift against the amber sky. An idyllic moment for a father to take his son for a stroll.

There he was, dressed in a barong, walking along the shoreline with his son, likewise wearing our national apparel. They were guests of a wedding in one of the island's premier resorts on White Beach. They step on the perimeter of the reception. In a tender moment of fatherly love, the man then tugs his son's pants and gestures for him to go ahead and take a pee.

And that for me is the metaphor for the state of Boracay today.

Ahhh, Boracay, what has happened to my beloved, magical island that it has now been reduced to a public toilet? My sense of dread grows each year, as if my days are doomed on that island fated to its eventual ruin by the sheer weight of humanity's debris. It's hard not to reminisce memories of the pristine paradise it once was, just to momentarily blind oneself from the stains of cigarette butts on the sand, the litter a-rainbowed on the rocky pathways connecting the coves, and the monstrous, ostentatious palaces of cement looking over the bamboo huts.

Apparently I am not alone in this sentiment. This past summer, I've heard more people voice out words about our country's most famous destination. To wit:

"It's getting raped."

"It's like Megamall during midnight sale."

"It's like Vegas on the beach."

"Wonder why many people always get sick after going to Boracay. Maybe they drank the water?"

"I feel like the island is dying. Like something inside is trying to retreat into itself. When I go there now I don't feel the beauty of a sunset. I just feel the memory."

I just *feel* the memory. Now isn't that the saddest thing you've ever heard?

Boracay has evolved into a double meaning, standing for both paradise and paradise lost. It is an adjective, descriptive of the mass commercialization of a beautiful beach "the Boracay."

And so we blame, for there is always someone to blame. The local government, the visiting foreigners, the corporate sponsors blighting the landscape with their logos. And by doing so, we rest on a lofty position while we wash our hands with scab-stained wrath.

The last time I was there, I asked myself – perhaps we don't blame ourselves enough. No, hope I don't blame myself enough. Perhaps I'm just a witness to the fading romance, watching it with a beer in my hand. Perhaps I contributed to the island's slow demise when I did not go up to that man who taught his son to pee on the sand that everyone walks on. Perhaps I should've picked up the trash and the cigarette butts on the rocky pathways and not lol...lol while I walked away.

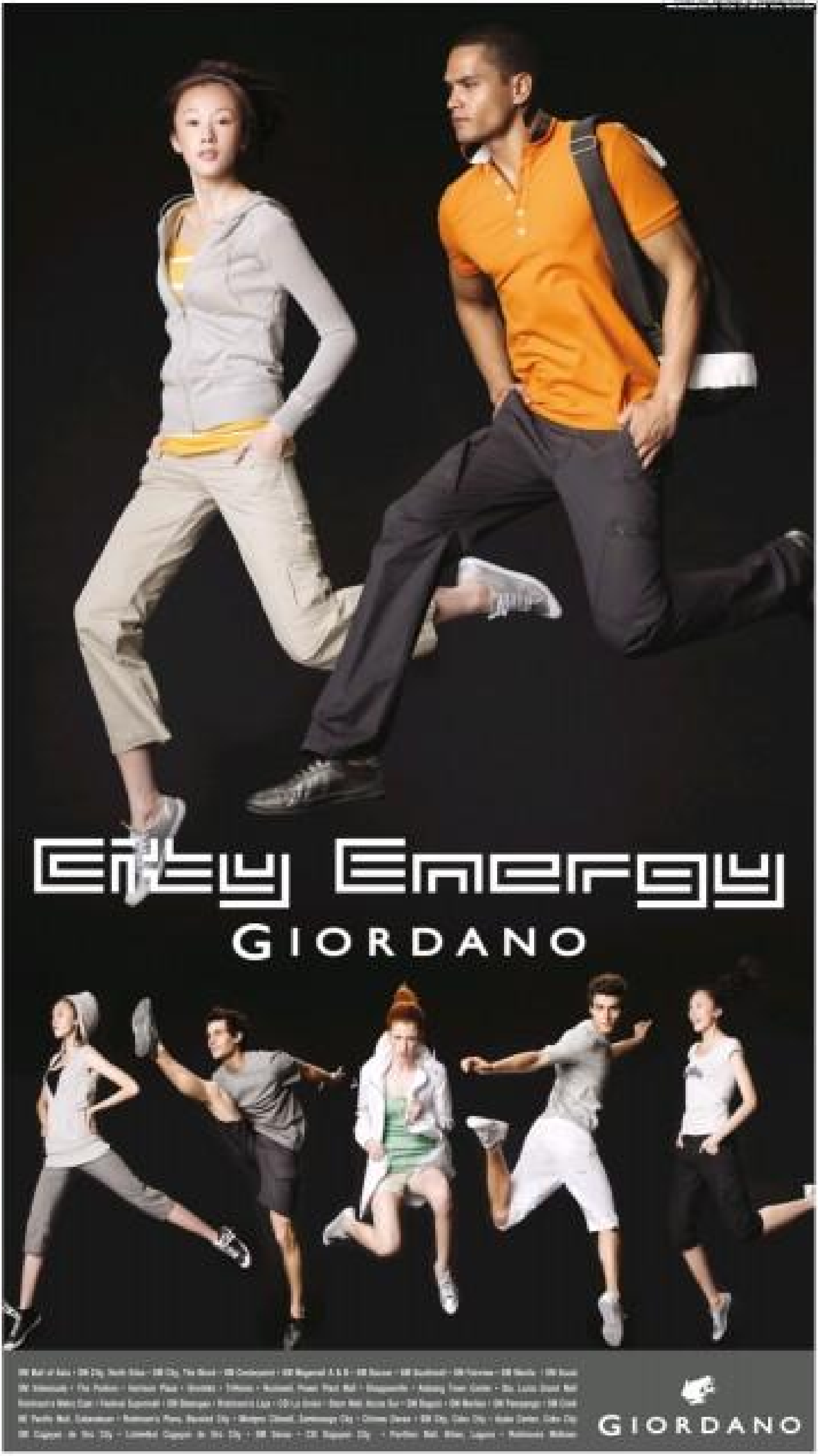
A flash. An old news clipping.

"300 people protested the opening of a McDonald's restaurant on the main plaza of Oaxaca. Instead of the usual marches and loud protests, the demonstrators placed large table in the city square and proceeded to eat large quantities of tamales ... " That was in August 2002.

Now if the citizens of Oaxaca in Mexico can have their city so much that it can unite in protest of a McDonald's opening in their culture-soaked neighborhood, then why can't we muster the community strength to protect the haphazard, vat and pesty development of this island that we claim to love?

Or if we truly loved something, do we simply watch it slip away from us, like powder white sands trickling down an hourglass?




City Energy
GIORDANO
GIORDANO

super

24/7 SUPER Radar

weekend navigator

By Janine Gonzales-Dario and Stef Juan

TASTE the bitter with the sweet of **James Blunt**'s love songs on May 29 when he sweeps into town and takes his turn on the stage of **Araneta Coliseum** for his **All The Lost Souls Tour**. This multi-awarded British singer-songwriter of the pop and folk persuasion is best known over here for his hit song "You're Beautiful." The show starts at 8 p.m. Call [illegible] for tickets and information.

FEEL that vertigo in your heart and let your life take a wild turn after watching Repertory Philippines' re-staging of the beloved **Tuesdays With Morrie** at the **Insular Life Auditorium** (Filinvest Corporate Center, Alabang, Muntinlupa) tonight at 7:30 and tomorrow at 4 p.m. The play, based on the best-selling book of the same title, features powerful performances by Bart Guingona and Jose Mari Avellana, who is back on stage after a 10-year hiatus. It chronicles Mitch Albom's time with his dying mentor Morrie Schwartz. For tickets and reservations, please call Carmina Francisco at (0917) 842-2145.

EXPERIENCE church like you've never been before. Feed your soul in **Spirit: Nothing But Gospel House** with DJ [illegible] and



EXPERIENCE Spirit



GET A TASTE of James Blunt

(From page E1)

Ritchie Sodal at Mercbouse 100, this Sunday from 3 to 6 p.m. Check out this new alternative music scene of past, five teenagers of the underground Gospel house genre. If singing hymns on hard chords great is not your cup of tea, this just might work. This event is for the benefit of Gawad Kalinga Foundation. There will be a P200 door charge with one free drink. For more information, check out www...

HEAR the 1950's and early '60s brought back to life when **Neil Sedaka** sings his greatest hits at the **Araneta Coliseum** tonight at 8. The legendary American pop singer, songwriter, and pianist has worked with Connie Francis and Carole King. Remember "Oh! Carol"? How about "Breaking Up Is Hard to Do"? Relive the good old days. For tickets and information, call 911-5555.

Of course you have heard of her, and so has the western world, but it's still different to **SEE** and **HEAR Lea Salonga** in person. Listen to the country's pride and joy recount her almost magical journey from being a child star to a Broadway star in her two-night concert **Lea, My Life ... On Stage** at the **PICC Plenary Hall**, CCP Complex at 8 p.m. on May 23 and 24. It's bound to be an awesome show filled with Broadway hits and classics from a long time ago. For tickets, call 891-9999.



HEAR Neil Sedaka ...



... and Lea Salonga

SEE how landscapes and mindscapes come together in the exhibit entitled, **Strange Familiarities, Familiar Strangers** featuring works by Marina Cruz-Garcia (www.marinacruzgarcia.com) which explores spaces and Rafael Tapaya (www.rafaeltapaya.com), which focuses on people.

SEE the works which were produced at the **Vermont Studio Center**, Johnson, Vermont, USA for an artist residency program this year. The works will be on display from May 21 to June 6 at the **Alliance Française de Manille's Total Gallery**, 209 Nicanor Garcia Street (formerly Reposo Street), Bel-Air 2, Makati City. T: 895.7441; 895.7585, E: ...

Information is subject to change without prior notice. For more information on events, log on to www.mag247.com or pick up your free copy of 24/7 Manila Navigator at your favorite malls, bars and restaurants. You may also text 24/7 plus ... to 2951 for Globe and Sun and 2951 for Smart. Submit your schedules before Thursday to events@mag247.com and mag247@gmail.com for inclusion in this column.

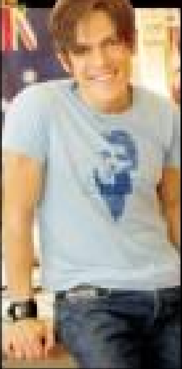


SEE Marina Cruz-Garcia



Super Exclusive!

Long live the *Queen!*



The West End musical 'We Will Rock You'—starring our very own Mig Ayesa, no less—premiered in Hong Kong last night, providing Southeast Asian fans of British band Queen a rare chance to experience 'rock theater' in electrifying degrees



A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

Where to Stop Where to Go

Provincial Hotels Directory

Isla Fuego, island on fire



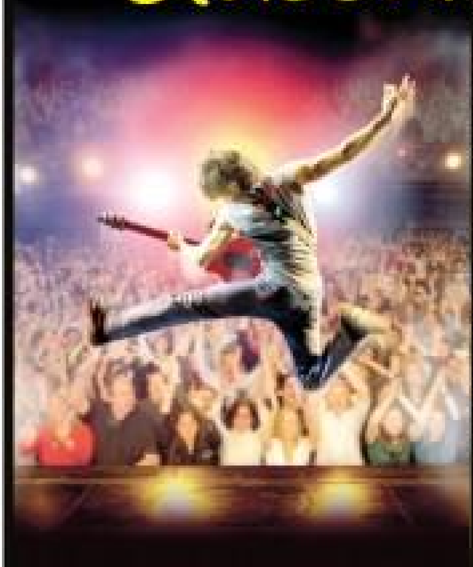


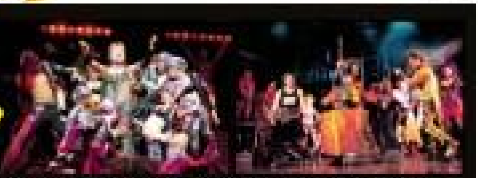
Birthday cheers at The Bellevue's 20/20

Waterfront Insular Hotel Davao's new executive chef

A.Venue Hotel Suites in Makati Avenue now open

Long live the Queen!





STAGE ART The futuristic set was created by Mark Fisher, who also designed sets for U2 and The Rolling Stones.

From page F1

[illegible]



CREATIVE CREW British playwright Ben Elton (center) with producers Brian May and Roger Taylor of Queen.



"We Will Rock You" plays at the Lyric Theatre [illegible]

ROCK ON! "We Will Rock You" runs at the Lyric Theatre in Hong Kong until June 15.

Tours, Leisure & Chow



LI LI GOES LOCO FOR COCONUT

[illegible]

'After Work Happy Hour' at the Top of the Century

[illegible]



[illegible]

Hawthorn Suites in the Philippines

[illegible]



SATURDAY SEVEN

Hands on Art



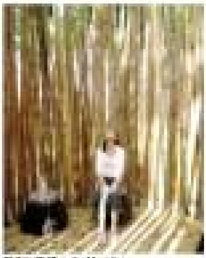




















SPIELBERG: Returns to popular franchise...

SATURDAY Special

Editor ... • Associate Editor ...

Spielberg bares how new 'Indiana Jones' film almost never got made



ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD
Ruben V. Nepales

The director reveals how they kept the story of 'Crystal Skull' a secret

LOS ANGELES—"I CAN'T TELL YOU," Steven Spielberg, breaking into a boyish smile, told a reporter who asked what his favorite scene in "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull" was.

The master filmmaker, wearing a Brown University

SPIELBERG G2

NOW SHOWING

Diaz, Kutcher zap formulaic rom-com with frenetic energy



By Rito P. Asilo

"What Happens in Vegas"

D: Tom Vaughan

S: Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher

ROMANTIC CHAOS. THAT'S what happens when an easy-going slacker and a high-strung careerwoman cross paths in Sin City. Yes, the familiar premise of Tom Vaughan's formulaic romantic farce, "What Happens in Vegas," is no Oscar fodder, but Ashton Kutcher and Cameron Diaz bring so much zany playfulness and frenetic energy to their roles that it's hard not to get caught up in their film's wacky proceedings.

DIAZ AND KUTCHER. She's a high-strung careerwoman, he's an easygoing slacker.

Tinseltown's celebrated 'Olympians' remembered

By Bebs Cervantes

Swimming

Swashbuckling roles



WEISSMULLER. Found fame when he played Tarzan.

Spielberg bares how new 'Indiana Jones' . . .



LABEOUF AND FORD. Team up in Indy's latest adventure.

POWER PLANT CINEMA

IRONMAN – G	HAROLD AND KUMAR 2	IRONMAN – G
WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS – PG13	PERFECT CREATURE – R13	SPEED RACER PG13

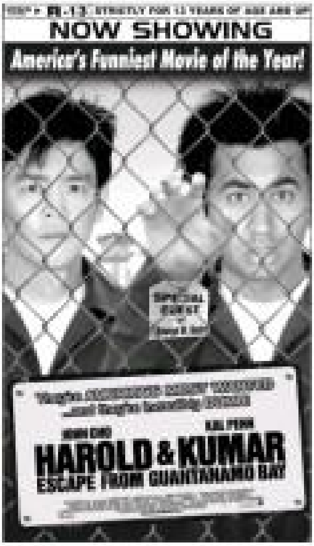
SHANG CINEPLEX

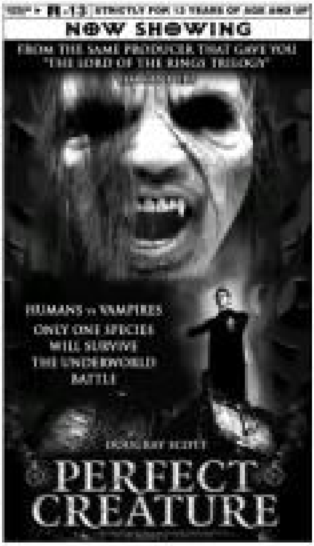
1. Speed Racer
2. Iron Man
3. What Happens in Vegas
4. Harold and Kumar 2

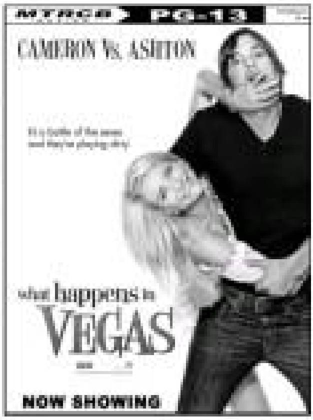
Iron Man or Speed Racer

Shang Cineplex E-see Club









AT THE CINEMAS

GLORIETTA 1	1 IRON MAN	2 SPEED RACER	3 PERFECT CREATURE	4 IKAW PA RIN: BONGGA KA BOY
GLORIETTA 4	1 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	2 IKAW PA RIN	3 SPEED RACER	
	4 MEGAGRAND	5 HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY	6 IRON MAN	7 WHEN LOVE BEGINS
GREENBELT 1	1 SPEED RACER	2 IRON MAN		
GREENBELT 3	1 SPEED RACER	2 IRON MAN		
	3 PERFECT CREATURE	4 HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY	5 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 SPEED RACER	2 IRON MAN		
	3 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	4 HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY	5 IKAW PA RIN: BONGGA KA BOY	
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	2 IRON MAN	3 SPEED RACER	4 IKAW PA RIN: BONGGA KA BOY
MARKET! MARKET!	1 SPEED RACER	2 HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY		
	3 MEGAGRAND	4 IRON MAN	5 IKAW PA RIN: BONGGA KA BOY	
TRINOMA	1 WHEN LOVE BEGINS	2 WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	3 HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY	4 MEGAGRAND
	5 IKAW PA RIN: BONGGA KA BOY	6 IRON MAN	7 SPEED RACER	

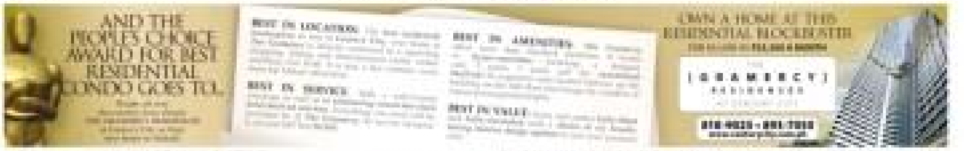
AT THE MALLS

Glorietta	
Greenbelt	
Alabang Town Center	
Ayala Center Cebu	
Market! Market!	
Onebayfront	
Ayala Museum	
TriNoma	





glorietta · Greenbelt · Alabang Town Center · Ayala Center Cebu · Market! Market! · TriNoma



Change of image a necessary rite of passage in show biz



CYRUS: Under fire for "too precociously adult" photos.

By Nestor U. Torre



TAYLOR: Shifted from innocent beauty in "National Velvet" to young adult star in "A Place in the Sun."

Revealing

Popularity and beauty

'Transformation'





SATURDAY *Special*

Monique Wilson: 'Performing with Jane Fonda and company was amazing!'

Audience impact





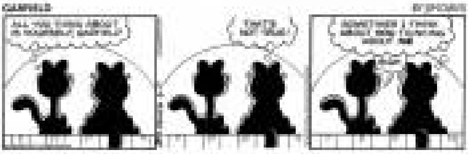


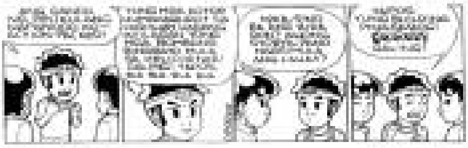
PUGAD BABOY



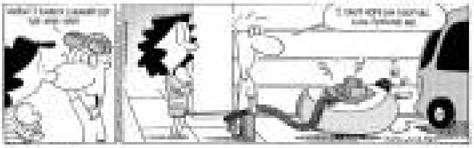


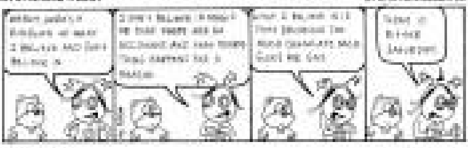
GARFIELD

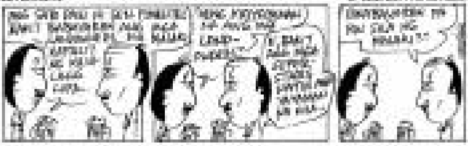




BABY BLUES

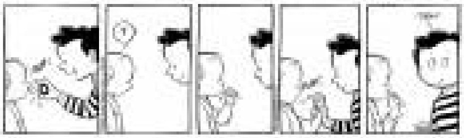








BEN



DAILY CROSSWORD

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

6	3				7			2
					9			6
				3				
3	5			4				
		4		9		2		
				1			9	8
				2				
9			8					
1			9				5	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle



DAWSON (LEFT, WITH MONIQUE): Incredibly warm and generous.

Monique . . .

Monologue

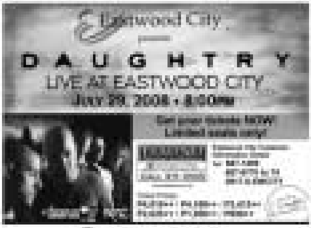
Tribute

Three questions



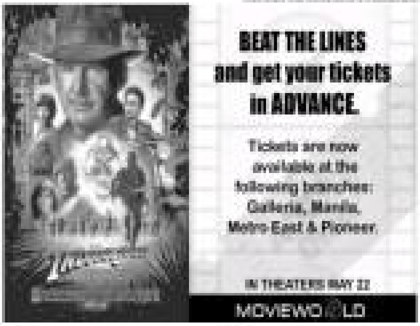
MMTA MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING


















SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2008

Readers react

Angel Locsin defender

Invitation on TV

Jessica Soho's show cited



WHAT'S INSIDE

SATURDAY *Special*

Exciting comers topbill new productions

By Nestor U. Torre



BARNES: From stage to screen.

NEW FILMS COMING TO our screens confirm the global movie industry's shift from big stars to new talent as headliners of upcoming productions. Leading off, "The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian," fields not one, but five young comers in key roles.

Playing the film's title character, Prince Caspian, is the charismatic young British actor, Ben Barnes. How did he clinch the plum role? A casting assistant had seen Barnes in the West End play, "The History Boys," and arranged for an audition—which the young man passed with flying colors.

Audition

[illegible]

Great presence

[illegible]

CONTINUED ON C2



RAIN: Makes Hollywood debut in film version of "Speed Racer."

Something to Blog About

[illegible]



















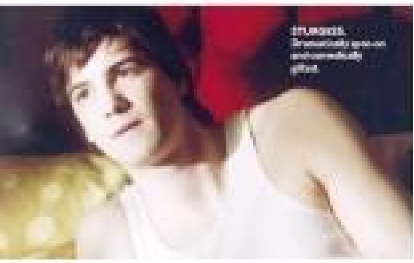


It's a Lipton Good Thing

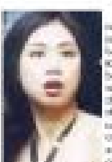
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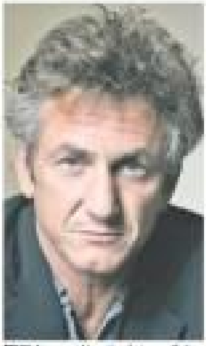
Comedy sequel has more social commentary, satire



Exciting comers . . .



Sean Penn is a rebel with many causes



PENN. It was not his acting that propelled him to global celebrity. It was his marriage to pop icon, Madonna.

[illegible]

Political activist

[illegible]

Marriage

[illegible]

AFP

Docu takes an intimate look at Afghanistan



MORISSETTE. Shot 80 hours of footage for "Afghan Chronicles."

[illegible]

Golden age

[illegible]

Insights

[illegible]



MORISSETTE (second from right) loves the energy and curiosity of Filipino viewers.

Paulo pays it forward

[illegible]



STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

Training

[illegible]

Aga plays relatively passive role in latest starrer

By Nestor U. Torre



MUHLACH AND CURTIS: He's grumpy man reduced to reacting to what she says, does or wants to happen.

[illegible]

Nuances

[illegible]

Environmental concerns

[illegible]

Statements

[illegible]

Anniversary sale at ManoMano Fair Trade Store

MONTAGE

[illegible]

Nickelodeon turns up the heat

[illegible]



NELSON AND FERNANDEZ: Refreshment of choice for their healthy lifestyle.

Kenny's Smoothies

[illegible]

'All the Lost Souls'

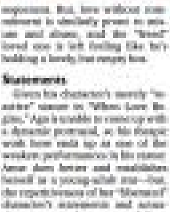
[illegible]

'Boy Culture'

[illegible]

Movies on TV

[illegible]



BLUNT: Sings at the Big Dome on May 19.

[illegible]

Laguna Heritage Tour

[illegible]

'Sex and the City'

[illegible]

'Big Cat Diary'

[illegible]

Promo tours

[illegible]

ANNIVERSARY B

Movies about mothers

By Lilia Borlongan-Alvarez



WINGER AND MACLAINE. Cast as daughter and mother in "Terms of Endearment."

WHETHER YOU'RE waxing nostalgic or just aiming for a good laugh, these memorable movies should make your post-Mothers' Day viewing special:

"Grapes of Wrath," based on John Steinbeck's 1939 novel, tells the story of the Joads, a family of tenant farmers who get evicted from their ancestral land in Oklahoma and decide to move to California during the Great Depression—only to face even more adversities.

Issue

In the movie, Ma Joad (played by Oscar winner, Jane Darwell) is the strong-willed backbone of her family who, together with Tom (Henry Fonda, who won the Best Actor Oscar), refuses to be defeated by misfortune. It dramatizes the issue of social injustice juxtaposed with the seemingly elusive promise of the American dream.

"Terms of Endearment" tackles the complexities of mother-daughter relationships. It is typified by Shirley MacLaine, a widow constantly locking horns with her rebellious daughter (Debra Winger). It begins as a comedy and turns into a tearjerker. It won the Oscar for Best Picture and Best Director.

"The Joy Luck Club" is about four mothers who grew up in China before the civil war of 1946-49 and settled in the Chinese-American community in San Francisco, California. This poignant drama examines the mothers' guarded past and the cultural differences between them and their daughters.

Voice talent

"Mrs. Doubtfire" is a hilarious comedy about Daniel (Robin Williams), a jobless voice talent who, after his divorce from Miranda (Sally Field), ends up working as the 60-year-old British nanny of their three children.

While it will keep you in stitches for the most part, it will also bring tears to your eyes—especially when Daniel pleads with the court to allow him to spend more time with his kids because "I'm addicted to my children." [illegible]

"Was Mama" [illegible]

[illegible]

Cheap but nutritious alternatives

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bizmark

DESPITE THEIR MEAGER income, many Filipino families survive because they eat cheap but nutritious food. Instead of buying expensive ingredients, they get them from sidewalk vendors who offer healthy alternatives. Some popular items from our reliable neighborhood vendors who are on [illegible] any food [illegible].

1. Taho. This steaming hot, protein-rich food is loved by young and old alike. Children are introduced early on to this healthy food option that helps everyone get his body's protein requirement, especially when dairy products are too expensive.

2. Boiled peanuts. Devoid of oil, MSG and other additives, boiled peanuts are natural and protein-rich. They're an ideal snack or dessert for the whole family.

Popular snack

3. Boiled corn. Aside from being free from cancer-causing chemicals, it is flavorful and healthy. In La Union, a pack of four small cobs of corn sells for only P20, and is a popular snack among school children, laborers and simple folk.

4. Kakanin. These desserts are simple treats that don't contain preservatives and artificial flavors. They use ingredients like [illegible], cassava, raw brown sugar and rice flour. Whether steamed, baked or fried, they make for a hearty snack!

One food item we wish were more common here are baked sweet potatoes. In China, vendors ride bicycles with a [illegible] that carries huge cans containing charcoal and sweet potatoes. When you order a piece, they pull out the hot, baked sweet potato from the can, and charge according to its weight. Their sweet potatoes have a smokey flavor and are healthy, nutritious and affordable!

Music to coffee lovers' ears



PADILLA. Sang Nescafé's popular 1983 jingle.



BAMBOO. Interpreted the coffee brand's "Good Day" jingle in 2004.

IN 1983, NESCAFÉ LAUNCHED AN advertising campaign that featured then exciting new singer, Zsa Zsa Padilla, brilliantly interpreting a song that established a warm, relaxing mood and tugged at the emotions. "Let's sit a while in the cozy world of Nescafé," she sang dreamily, as heartwarming images filled the TV screen.

Soon, the tune became more than just an advertising jingle. The perfect combination of singer and song evoked coffee-related memories, encompassing various moods, locales, situations and emotions—with love, companionship and friendship coming through most sympathetically of all.

In 1988, Nescafé celebrated its 50th anniversary, and it was singer-songwriter Jose Mari Chan's turn to create music to warm and soothe coffee lovers everywhere. His contribution, "Nescafé's 50 Golden Years," reflected the brand's maturity and embraced the calming sweetness of being able to beat the odds and giving flavor with time.

Younger approach

By 2004, Nescafé opted to take a fresher, younger approach, with its new jingle, "Good Day," performed by Bamboo Mañalac, vivifying the excitement of youth and the excitement of new adventures and challenges. Bamboo's "Goodday" was similarly upbeat, both in images and mood.

[illegible]

"Nescafé," and Francis M. of Edgar's Taglish jingle [illegible] sense of affinity [illegible] about Nescafé's [illegible] coffee aficionados can enjoy any way they want. —That's music to coffee lovers' ears!

Anniversary sale at ManoMano . . .

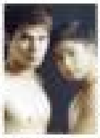
From page 4

"Only Human" mall tour hits SM Bacoor. And the "Pinakbeting Pag-Ibig" promo tour of Silent Sanctuary will be at SM Dasmariñas.

Tomorrow, Parokya ni Edgar promotes its "Solid" album at Robinsons Place Manila.

May 21 at 9 p.m., Rachelle Ann Go brings out its [illegible] album, "Rachelle Ann Rocks Live" at Circle Café.

'Daybreak' on VCD

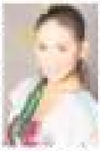


RIVERA AND MARTIN. Team in Ilo's gay drama.

"Daybreak," starring Coco Martin and Paolo Rivera, is now on VCD. Adolf Alix Jr.'s movie paints a poignant picture of two men torn in love who, after a passionate night, have a tough decision to make.

Reyna ng Aliwan

Mary Jean Lastimosa, representing Davao's Kadayawan festival, was recently proclaimed the Aliwan Fiesta's Reyna ng Aliwan 2008 in glittering ceremonies at the Aliw Theater Complex. The 20th-year Computer Engineering student of the University of Mindanao bested 35 other hopefuls for the crown.



LASTIMOSA. Reyna ng Aliwan 2008.

Second place went to [illegible] de los Reyes of Panay, with Claire Joyce Rosit (Gensan, Cebu), Zarah Mae Lim (Zamboanga City) and Jeamie May [illegible] (Himamaylan City, Negros Occidental) rounding out the court of honor. The Aliwan Fiesta is presented annually by the Manila Broadcasting Company and the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

'Gusto Kita, Too'

Brian and Carey are good-looking, young Fil-Ams in San Francisco who find themselves attracted to each other. Following her mother's suggestion, Brian starts wooing Carey the Pinoy way—by giving her flowers and [illegible], serenading her, and proposing to her in Tagalog.

But, his soon finds out that Carey's dad prefers a Caucasian boyfriend for his daughter. Will love triumph in the end? Filmmaker Rica Arevalo (Cinemalaya Best Director awardee) directs Brian Reyes and Carey Nucum in the light romantic short, which will be shown with FRD Poole's full-length feature, "Sa Pagdapo ng Gabi" starting May 21 at Robinsons IndieSine.

15th Pundaquit Festival

The Center for the Arts in San Antonio (Casa San Miguel) Pundaquit presents an evening of classical chamber music today in the closing offering of the 15th Pundaquit Festival in San Antonio, Zambales.

The concert features Bach's Brandenburg Concert No. 5 for harpsichord, violin and flute featuring Gabe Polignac, Jeorgiana Pereira and Jay Gomez, and Brahms' Piano Quintet in F Minor Op. 67, performed by the Pundaquit Virtuosi. Call [illegible] or log on to www.casasanmiguel.ph.

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